AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert at page 1 before the title:

--TITLE OF THE INVENTION--

Please insert at page 1 before line 5:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION--

Please insert at page 1, before line 13:

--DISCUSSION OF THE BACKGROUND--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--On the one hand there are physical solvents, which rely on a physical absorption process, i.e., the acid gases dissolve in the physical solvent. Typical physical solvents are cyclotetra-methylene sulfone (sulfolane) and its derivatives, aliphatic acid amides, NMP (N-methylpyrrolidone), N-alkylated pyrrolidones and corresponding piperidones, methanol and mixtures of dialkylethers of polyethylene glycols (~~Selexol~~ SELEXOL®, Union Carbide, Danbury, Conn., USA).--

Please insert at page 5, before line 1:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 5, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--We have found that this object is achieved by the process of the present ~~claim 1~~ invention. The invention accordingly provides a process for removing COS and further acidic gases from a hydrocarbonaceous fluid stream which contains CO_2, COS and possibly further acidic gases, especially H_2S or mercaptans, as impurities, which comprises intimately contacting the fluid stream in an absorption or extraction zone with a scrubbing liquor comprising an aqueous amine solution containing from 1.5 to 5 mol/l of an aliphatic alkanolamine of from 2 to 12 carbon atoms and from 0.4 to 1.7 mol/l of a primary or secondary amine as activator. COS is essentially completely removed from the fluid stream by the amine wash proposed according to the invention. Subsequently the substantially decontaminated fluid stream and the COS–loaded scrubbing liquor are separated and discharged from the absorption or extraction zone. The scrubbing liquor can subsequently be regenerated in a conventional manner and recycled back into the absorption or extraction zone.--

Please insert at page 5, before line 25:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Figure 1 shows an arrangement for carrying out the process of the invention.

Figure 2 shows the COS absorption rate as a function of the CO_2 absorption rate for a conventional scrubbing liquor.

Figure 3 shows the COS absorption rate as a function of the CO_2 absorption rate for a conventional scrubbing liquor.

Figure 4 shows the COS absorption rate as a function of the CO_2 absorption rate for a conventional scrubbing liquor.

Figure 5 shows the COS absorption rate as a function of the CO_2 absorption rate for a conventional scrubbing liquor.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--

Please delete the abstract at page 17 in its entirety and insert therefore: